

LOUISVILLE METRO COUNCIL COMMITTEE MINUTES

Special Public Safety Subcommittee

Monday, August 27, 2007

4:00 P.M.

Third Floor, City Hall

Present:

Chairman: CM Downard

Vice Chair: CW Green

Members: CM Kramer, CW Welch, and CW Ward-Pugh

Special Items for Discussion: Metro Animal Control Ordinance

Chairman Downard announced the members and non-members of the committee that were present. A quorum was established.

Dr. Meloche, Director, Louisville Metro Animal Services; Karen Little, Alley Cat Advocates; Pam Schweiss, dog owner and breeder; and Steve Fox, President, Louisville Kennel Club, were present to speak and answer questions. Ms. Little gave a power point presentation (attached) The following was discussed:

- Alley Cat Advocates
 - The Use of Trap-Neuter-Return in the Management of Unowned Cat Populations
 - Founded in 1999 First surgeries performed October 2000
 - 11,300 cats spayed/neutered
 - Waiting list of 1700 cats represented by 351 caretakers
 - 80% of cats altered are tame and adoptable
 - Caretakers haven't established the colonies, they responded to a need
 - No other groups do Trap-Neuter-Return services here
 - Funding
 - Partnering with Metro Animal Services
 - What is the risk of spaying or neutering a pet
 - Have permission from a person's property and put the cat back on the property in which it came.
 - Possible liability - None
 - Have written permission from the person's who's property they are getting it from and returns it back to
 - Trap-Neuter-Return in Louisville
 - Reductions of the Negatives
 - Reduces the number of encounters with humans
 - Reduce cats hit by cars
 - Reduction of the Nuisance Behaviors
 - Spraying
 - Fighting
 - Howling
 - Using gardens as litter boxes
 - Killing of birds - usually sick and elderly birds
 - Reduction of the Public Health Risks
 - Rabies - minimal risks – vaccinations
 - Bats, Skunks, Fox and raccoons are the main vectors for rabies because they are wild and are not controlled by vaccinations
 - Reduction in the Suffering
 - High kitten mortality rate
 - Removing male need to roam and fight
 - Remove constant heat/giving birth/nursing cycle from females life
 - Reduction in the Cost to Taxpayer
 - The future

- one of hope
 - Work more closely with municipal governments
 - Recognize the need for a variety of new approaches to a long standing problem
 - Stop killing because that's what has always been done.
- Education efforts and Public outreach
- When breeding dogs- should have health checks - heart checks - hip checks etc.
- Have to socialize the dogs
- Training classes
- Shows and programming associated with the shows
- Responsible breeding practices
- Public Safety
- Environment make-up to a dog vs. genetic make up
- Effective spay/neuter programs

Motion to Adjourn was made by Tina Ward-Pugh.

Without objection the meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

KQG